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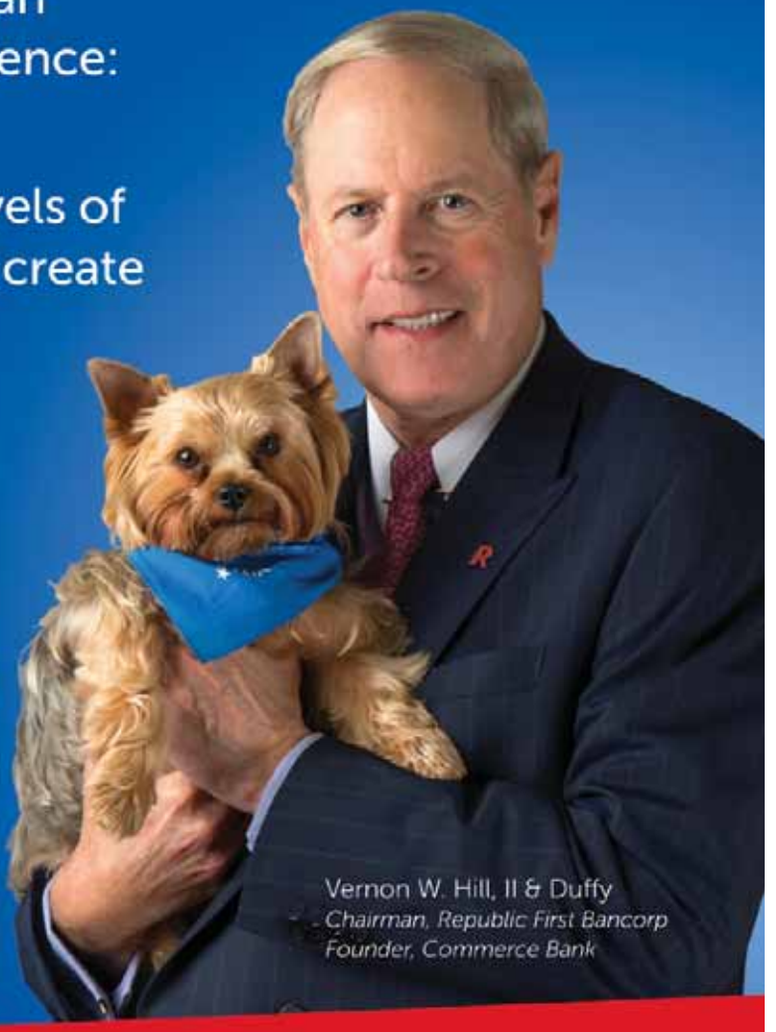

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Bargatze will headline this Saturday as part of the NY Comedy Fest. 12

'I'M GONNA MAKE YOU LOVE ME'

See the compelling story of Brian Belovitch in Karen Bernstein's latest documentary. 14-15

Marisa Tomei is commanding in 'The Rose Tattoo.' 15

BIG-GAME HUNTING

What would an aggressive Mets offseason look like if Brodie Van Wagenen gets green light from Wilpons? 18

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4 THINGS TO KNOW

Nine Americans die in Mexican massacre, Trump proposes 'war'

The LeBaron family had settled in northern Mexico.

Gunmen killed nine women and children in the bloodiest attack on Americans in Mexico for years, prompting U.S. President Donald Trump to offer to help the neighboring country wipe out drug cartels believed to be behind the ambush.

All nine people, Mexican-Americans killed in Monday's daytime attack at the border of Chihuahua and Sonora, belonged to the LeBaron family, members of a breakaway Mormon community that settled in northern Mexico's hills and plains decades ago.

Mexican Security Minister Alfonso Durazo said the nine, traveling in several SUVs, may have been victims of mistaken identity, given the high number of violent confrontations among warring drug gangs in the area.

"The convoy made up of suburban vans could have been confused with criminal groups that fight for control in the region," Durazo said at a news conference alongside Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador.

A video posted on social media showed the charred and smoking remains of a vehicle riddled with bullet holes that was apparently carrying the victims when the attack occurred.

"This is for the record," says a male voice speaking English in an American accent, off camera, choking up with emotion.

"Nita and four of my grandchildren are burnt and shot up."

Reuters could not independently verify the video.

A family relative, Julian LeBaron, called the incident a "massacre" and said some family members were burned alive.

In a text message to Reuters he wrote that four boys, two girls and three women were killed. Several children who fled the attack were lost for hours in the countryside before being found, he said.

He said it was unclear who carried out the attack.

"We don't know why, though they had received indirect threats. We don't know who did it," he told Reuters.

"My cousin was murdered with her children in the truck," said Alex LeBaron, another relative in one of the villages inhabited by the extended family. He said all the victims were U.S. citizens, and most also held dual citizenship with Mexico.

Under Trump, the United States and Mexico have often been at loggerheads over trade, the U.S. president's anti-immigration rhetoric and his plans to build a wall on their common border.

But Trump has praised Lopez Obrador, his Mexican counterpart who took office 11 months ago, for helping to reduce the flow of Central American migrants to the United States.

Trump tweeted that he would await a call from Lopez Obrador, urging him to accept U.S. assistance.

Lopez Obrador said he would call Trump on Tuesday about ways to cooperate on security but rejected what he called any foreign government intervention.

"I'll speak with President Trump to thank him for his support, and to see if in cooperation agreements there's the possibility of getting help," he told the news conference. "I don't think we need the intervention of a foreign government to deal with these cases," he added.

GOOGLE MAPS

Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump

This is the time for Mexico, with the help of the United States, to wage WAR on the drug cartels and wipe them off the face of the earth. We merely await a call from your great new president!

Trump wrote on Twitter: "The great new President of Mexico has made this a big issue, but the cartels have become so large and powerful that you sometimes need an army to defeat an army!"

"This is the time for Mexico, with the help of the United States, to wage WAR on the drug cartels and wipe them off the face of the earth," Trump added.

Mexico has used its military in a war on drug cartels since 2006 but despite the arrest or killing of leading traffickers the campaign has not succeeded in reducing drug violence. In fact, it has led to more killings as criminal groups fight among themselves.

The government has registered more than 250,000 homicides in the last dozen years, most of them related to the drug war.

Lopez Obrador has blasted the security strategy of previous Mexican governments, saying more than a decade of war against drug traffickers is officially over and he will seek alternative solutions.

"War is irrational. We believe in peace," said Lopez Obrador, a leftist who took office last December.

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and the FBI already work very closely with Mexico to combat the cartels.

In 2010, two members of the Chihuahua Mormon community, including one from the LeBaron family, were killed in apparent revenge after security forces tracked drug gang members. The Mormons had suffered widespread kidnappings before that.

Northwestern Mexico has been home to small Mormon and Mormon-linked communities with family ties to the United States since the late 19th century. REUTERS

1
The burnt wreckage of a vehicle transporting a Mormon family living near the border with the U.S. is seen, after the family was caught in a crossfire between unknown gunmen from rival cartels in Bavispe, Sonora, Mexico. REUTERS

'Single? I'm self-partnered' says Emma Watson

2 Actor Emma Watson has given up calling herself single and now describes herself as "self-partnered" as she faces down societal pressure to marry and have a family, she said in an interview published on Tuesday. The "Harry Potter" star told with British Vogue magazine she had battled anxiety as she approached age 30 without a stable career, partner or baby. "I never believed the whole 'I'm happy single' spiel,"

REUTERS

she told the magazine, saying she had gradually changed her views. "It took me a long time, but I'm very happy. I call it being self-partnered." REUTERS

Facebook will widen access to encryption feature

3 Facebook will outline on Wednesday an expanded test of encryption on its Messenger platform, moving ahead with a controversial plan for enhanced security that regulators and government officials warn will aid criminals. Executives told Reuters they will also detail safety measures, including stepped-up advisories for recipients of unwanted content.The moves, which will be more fully described by company executives at a Lisbon tech conference, follow complaints by top law enforcement officials in the United States, United Kingdom and Australia that Facebook's intention to encrypt messaging on all its platforms would put child sex predators and pornographers beyond detection. Facebook messaging privacy chief Jay Sullivan will continue to work toward the changeover. REUTERS

U.S. sees no evidence of hacking in Tues. elections

4 Voting in U.S. state and local elections on Tuesday showed no evidence of successful tampering by any foreign government, the Justice Department and six U.S. security agencies said. But Russia, China, Iran and other adversaries of the United States will seek to meddle in U.S. elections moving forward, including through social media manipulation and cyberattacks, the agencies said. "While at this time we have no evidence of a compromise or disruption to election infrastructure that would enable adversaries to prevent voting, change vote counts or disrupt the ability to tally votes, we continue to vigilantly monitor any threats to U.S. elections," a joint statement, signed by the heads of each agency, said. A new position was created within the Office of National Intelligence to focus solely on U.S. election security. REUTERS

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An NYC hot dog street vendor.

GETTY IMAGES

Cap on street vendor permits would be nixed under proposed state law

There are currently an estimated 5,100 licensed street vendors in NYC.

DEVIN GANNON
6SQFT
letters@metro.us

A state lawmaker wants to allow more street vendors to legally set up shop across New York by lifting the cap on the number of permits issued statewide. The legislation put forth by State Sen. Jessica Ramos, who represents parts of Queens, would let municipalities decide where sidewalk vendors could operate. "The idea is to decriminalize street vending and do away with caps so that every vendor goes through the appropriate inspections," Ramos told Gothamist.

Currently, there are roughly 5,100 licensed food vendors across the city, according to the city's Department of Health. The Street Vendor Project, part of the Urban Justice Center, estimates that there are actually as many as 20,000 street vendors across the city, which includes those selling non-food items.

Due to the cap on vending first implemented in 1979, as well as a long waiting list not updated in nearly three decades, many sellers choose to buy permits on the black market, which opens them up to tickets and fines. According to Gothamist, two-year permits cost $200. On the black market, the same permits could fetch up to $25,000.

The goal of Ramos' legislation is to bring currently illegal vendors into compliance with laws placed on existing vendors. It would also erase past violations for previous illegal vending. "People who want to vend are already vending, whether they have a permit or not," Ramos told Streetsblog on Monday.

"So this is about legalizing those who are, which will protect consumers because the Department of Health, for example, will have inspected if it's a food vendor. And so many of these vendors are people who are undocumented, so this would limit police interaction."

Critics of the plan say increasing the number of permits for vendors, who do not pay rent, hurts brick-and-mortar shops set up in the same neighborhood. Others, including Mayor Bill de Blasio, say removing the cap could "create chaos" on already-congested city sidewalks.

$25K

According to Gothamist, two-year permits cost $200. On the black market, the same permits could fetch up to $25,000.

"Our sidewalks are clogged in a lot of places," de Blasio said on NY1's Inside City Hall on Monday. "I'm particularly concerned about our traditional bricks-and-mortars small businesses who have been struggling a lot, especially with the internet commerce reality."

This is not the first time a lawmaker has attempted to reshape the city's vending industry. Former City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito made multiple attempts to push through legislation that would lift the cap on permits and create a dedicated law enforcement unit. Although it appeared likely to pass, it failed after opposition from the real estate industry and small businesses.

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Florida county board rejects library's New York Times subscription as 'fake news'

The NY Times has been highly critical of Trump.

NY Times headquarters, Manhattan, NY. REUTERS

A Florida county board rejected a library's request for a digital subscription to the New York Times, with one commissioner citing President Donald Trump's claim the newspaper's reporting was "fake news" as justifying the decision.

A motion to add a digital subscription to the paper for library users met quick opposition at the Board of County Commissioners in Citrus County, about 75 miles north of Tampa.

"Do we really need to subscribe to The New York Times?" asked Scott Carnahan, the board's second vice chairman, who led the opposition to the move at its Oct. 24 meeting, which was recorded.

"Fake news!" he exclaimed, echoing a slogan Trump has repeatedly used to criticize journalists or news reports that contradict his opinion or policy positions.

"I agree with President Trump," Carnahan said. "I will not be voting for this. I don't want The New York Times in this county."

On the same day the commissioners met, the White House said it was planning to order that federal agencies end their subscriptions to The New York Times and the Washington Post, two news outlets often criticized by Trump.

Carnahan was joined by Commissioners Ronald Kitchen, who balked at the annual cost of about $2,700, and Jimmie Smith, who wondered, "why the heck would we spend money on something like that?"

Reading the room, First Vice Chairman Brian Coleman withdrew the motion he made to approve the funding request.

Coleman later told the Citrus County Chronicle newspaper that he was open to reconsidering the matter.

"Do I think I made a mistake? Yes," Coleman told the paper. "Our decision should have been impartial."

The board's next regular meeting, set for Tuesday, did not include digital funding for the New York Times on its agenda.

The Chronicle, noting that the decision would affect some 70,000 library card holders, reported that its readers "reacted strongly" to the commissioners' decision, with "most but not all" critical of it.

> **"Why the heck would we spend money on something like that?"**
>
> **Jimmie Smith**

The county already pays about $3,000 a year to supply its four regional libraries with the print edition of The Times, Library Services Director Eric Head told the newspaper. REUTERS

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A high percentage of gastroparesis patients have difficulty with a variety of symptoms from abdominal pain to nausea and vomiting.

The study duration is approximately 4 months with a screening phase of approximately one month prior to randomization to drug or placebo.

Researchers in the United States are looking for up to 400 adults diagnosed with gastroparesis who

- are between 18 and 70 years of age
- experience significant symptoms of gastroparesis such as nausea

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ISTOCK

Hate crimes continue to rise in NYC

Another day, another hate crime being dealt with by officials.

BECCA GLASSER-BAKER
Rebecca.Glasser@metro.us

A former NYU professor was caught on camera over the weekend allegedly vandalizing a Brooklyn church.

Michael Gould Wartofsky, 34, was arrested and charged with a hate crime after he allegedly uprooted plants outside the Williamsburg church and threw them at the door, damaging a $5,000 statue.

The incident was caught on a security camera at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel early Sunday, NBC reported.

Monsignor Jamie Gigantiello, the church's pastor, spoke with NBC and said he believes Wartofsky was intoxicated when he vandalized the church property.

In the footage, Wartofsky was seen with two other men walking down 8th Street. He stopped in front of the church and pulled plants from the garden, throwing them at the door. The two other men did not participate.

Wartofsky can also be seen yelling something at the security camera; he proceeded to drag a resin statue of St. Judge into the middle of the street. He kicked the figure a couple of times and left it there.

Gigantiello told NBC, "This exhibition of violence, anger, and hatred is very disturbing. This is definitely an attack on the Catholic Church."

The ex-sociology professor was charged with hate crime criminal mischief, but at this time there are no charges of public intoxication.

Although this was an attack on the Catholic Church, hate crimes against religious groups have continued to grow across the city.

> **"This exhibition of violence, anger, and hatred is very disturbing. This is definitely an attack on the Catholic Church."**
>
> **Monsignor Jamie Gigantiello**

The NYPD said in a statement to NBC, "We will never tolerate hate in our city in any form. The NYPD has the largest Hate Crime Task Force in the country comprised of the best hate crime investigators that work tirelessly with our patrol officers, detective squads, and community leaders to vigorously investigate every reported hate crime."

This incident comes amid a rash of possible hate attacks against Brooklyn's Jewish community.

NBC also reports that police are investigating a string of possible hate attacks on the Jewish community in Brooklyn.

It was reported that on Saturday, a 16-year-old boy was approached by an unknown person in a dark-colored sedan at the corner of 14th Avenue and 55th street in Borough Park. The person tried to get the teen into the car, but the teen fled.

Another recent incident that was reported by Boro Park Shomrim (the neighborhood safety patrol) shows a surveillance video of victims running from attackers who jumped out of a car and chased them down on 53rd Street and New Utrecht Avenue.

Last Friday, NBC reported that a victim was practically pinned by a car, which fled after an occupant punched a victim near 48th Street. This occurred in the same neighborhood as the previous incidents. Another report says another person was chased down 51st Street.

It is unclear if all incidents are related or not. Police say that NYPD's Hate Crime Task Force is investigating.

Not knowing what to do IMMEDIATELY after a car (or work) accident can lead to devastating medical and legal consequences... <u>even</u> if you are not at fault

Crucial Facts Everyone Injured In A Car Accident Should Know

Knowing this could save you from a medical or legal disaster...

NYC - If you have been injured in a car or work accident... there are two things you must know to make sure you get the best possible care and that your rights protected.

In just a moment, I'm going to give you that extremely valuable information that will probably save you from making a costly mistake.

But first, let me ask you this...

You were just in a car accident. It's a tiny "fender bender." And it's not your fault... someone hit you from behind while you were stopped.

The other person is nice. And upset. They say you don't need to call the police or get insurance involved. They will pay you for the damages.

Should you do it?

The answer is

ABSOLUTELY NOT

Don't start dealing with the other party and say "let's deal with this on the side".

Let's face it… you don't know who these people are and what they are going to do.

We can give you plenty of examples of people trying to be nice and doing this only to find out the next day that the other person all of a sudden changed their story and there is a huge legal mess.

You may even be charged with leaving the scene of an accident. <u>Do not leave the scene</u>. That can be looked at as illegal.

Call the police. Get law enforcement there to document that the accident took place and exactly what happened.

Quick aside: If this is a work injury… call your supervisor. <u>Right away!</u>

Don't go to your supervisor a week later saying you were injured. That can look inappropriate and lead to issues.

Back the the car accident - if you do not feel well after an accident, tell the police officer and they will arrange for you to be taken to a hospital.

But even if you are feeling OK… there is something call D.O.S. … or "Delayed Onset Syndrome."

This means you can feel fine right after the accident but pain and symptoms can come hours, days or even weeks later.

This is pretty well documented in the medical literature. So, you should always go to a doctor shortly after an accident just to be checked over and see what's really going on.

And of course - take pictures of the accident. Everyone has cell phones nowadays… so take a few shots of the scene and the cars involved.

As soon as you can, contact your insurance company to report the accident and let them know what happened. Then follow up with the law enforcement agencies to get official reports of the accident.

Most accidents cause damage to the human body that can last a lifetime… so they should not be taken lightly. Make sure the accident is documented and you see the right doctor who deals with these types of injuries. With trauma.

Many people believe they should go to an attorney first. This may be because of all the legal advertising for accident victims… and that we live in a very litigious society. In other words… everyone either wants to sue or is afraid of getting sued.

There is no doubt… hiring the right attorney is extremely important.

But even more crucial is going to the right doctor.

It is extremely important you go to physicians who are trained in diagnosing, analyzing injuries and managing proper treatment.

Back to DOS: One of the major issues with *Delayed Onset Syndrome* is that if you go to the wrong doctor and they miss the proper diagnosis your injury can remain dormant. Hidden and untreated for long periods of time. That "minor" injury may turn into a major problem for the rest of your life.

This is why is is VERY important that you get examined by a doctor… or group of physicians… who is trained in these trauma related injuries. In other words… make sure the proper expert is evaluating you.

What about going to a doctor your attorney picks for you?

Often times attorneys have relationships with doctors and make referrals. This may or *may not* be the best doctor for you. Are they experts at legally documenting a case AND diagnosing and treating these types of injuries? Will you be personally comfortable with this doctor. That is something you have to think about and find out.

Is this a doctor who just runs a mill of car accident and work comp patients in and out… getting referrals from a relationship with attorneys… or is this a doctor who really cares about you?

Because...while the legal issues are important… the doctors job is to minimize the injury and make sure you get it treated the best way possible and aren't left with debilitating and lifelong issues.

You want to do a little research when choosing your doctor. Listen to your attorneys legal advice… but they are not doctors and they should not be directing all your medical care.

Car or work accidents can be life changing events. Knowing what to do can be the difference between navigating the legal and medical system smoothly... or a complete disaster. Not to mention lifelong injuries and bills. You need a guide to help you make the right decisions.

To sum it up… you want a doctor who is both a skilled expert at diagnosing and treating these types of traumatic injuries… and… documenting your injuries for any legal issues or the case you may have. Both of these things are a must.

Finding doctors with ALL these skills is the key...

Finding doctors that can give you the best possible medical care and are also skilled at documenting your case, dealing with insurance companies... their attorneys etc. etc. etc.

How can you find doctors with these skills?

Here's how: *NYC Pain MD* is a medical clinic located in New York City that has expert doctors that are trained and skilled at some of the best medical treatments available today... and will give you all the medical guidance you need for your legal case.

We have treated countless accident victims and worked with many great attorneys.

What type of car or work accident injuries do we treat?

Here is a short list of the common one's we successfully treat all the time:

- **Neck Pain including whiplash, bulging and herniated discs.**
- **Back Pain including bulging and herniated discs and sciatica.**
- **Radiating pain in the arms and legs**
- **Knees**
- **Headaches**
- **Shoulders**
- **Hands and wrists**
- **Feet and ankles**
- **Various soft tissue injuries to muscle, ligaments and tendons**
- **And more.**

One of the best things about *NYC Pain MD* is that it has both advanced treatments <u>and</u> medical technology all under one roof. Patients love this because they do not have to travel to a bunch of hospitals, surgi-centers or other doctors to get most of the treatments they need.

And results are great because the doctors are all working together to get you out of pain.

And if you have s condition or need a treatment we don't offer... the proper referral will be made to get you the best possible care needed.

If this sounds like something you'd like to check out... *now you can . . . for free.*

As a community service, *NYC Pain MD* offers free screenings to anyone injured in a car or work accident.

During this screening, you get to talk to one of the doctors and get all your questions answered. The questions answered on how your injuries can best be treated by the *NYC Pain MD* medical team (or elsewhere if necessary).

The best part of the screening is you'll finally know what's going on ... and what you can do about it. Most patients are seriously relieved after this screening - having us on their side and knowing exactly what do do next.

How To Get Your Free Screening...

Just call us at **877-285-8110** and tell the scheduling coordinator you would like to schedule your free screening. As long as you are one of the first 50, it is 100% free with no obligation. There is NOTHING to pay for and all your questions will be answered without stress. And...you can proceed exactly as you would like from there.

Warning: The clinic is very busy mostly from word of mouth. But we wanted to open up this opportunity to as many car or work accident victims as possible.

But because we get so much demand ... we have to limit this opportunity to only 50 screenings for the time being.

You have absolutely nothing to lose and possibly everything to gain. We suggest you call now to reserve a spot before they are all taken. Just Call: **877-285-8110** (Want more info - go to: **https://painmdny.com/car-accident/**)

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From cat videos to credit cards, Amazon says customers have to secure own data

Company responds to series of high-profile breaches.

Amazon's cloud computing customers have to decide themselves how best to protect sensitive information online, a senior executive said on Tuesday, following accusations by U.S. lawmakers that the web giant has not done enough to secure data on its servers.

Amazon Web Services (AWS), the cloud computing arm of Amazon.com, has come under fire following a series of high-profile data breaches, including one this year involving the personal information of 106 million people stored on its servers by Capital One Financial Corp.

Chief Technology Officer Werner Vogels said AWS provided multiple services to help customers identify if their data was being stored appropriately and flag any possible problems, but the decision about which settings to use lay with those clients.

99%

Analysts at Gartner predict client mistakes will account for 99 percent of "cloud security failures" over the next six years.

"We feel we have a responsibility in making sure you take the right actions, but in the end it's only you who can decide what is the right action there and what's not," he told Reuters on the sidelines of the Web Summit tech conference in Lisbon.

"I'm not going to look at your data thinking like 'hey, these are cat videos, maybe you shouldn't do that.'" He added that customers should use tighter security controls for sensitive data such as credit card information.

Cybersecurity researchers say data hosted on AWS servers is often accidentally exposed due to mistakes made by the company's clients configuring their security settings.

The alleged Capital One hacker, for example, was able to access the firm's data due to a wrongly-configured web application firewall, U.S. prosecutors have said.

Analysts at Gartner predict client mistakes will account for 99 percent of "cloud security failures" over the next six years.

The logo of Amazon Web Services. REUTERS

Vogels said the AWS system warned customers with a "massive red button" when they configured online storage containers – known as buckets – to be accessible by anyone online, a setting deliberately chosen for some products and applications.

The company also provides tools which clients can run to analyze the type of data they are storing and spot commonly associated slip-ups, he said.

"If you (change) the configuration on your bucket to world-readable, you will get lots of alarm bells going off," he said. "It's up to the individual customer to decide what's right and what's wrong." REUTERS

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HARD

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READER WRITE-INS:

BLUETOOTH HEADPHONES

Okay. I refuse to buy into Bluetooth headphones. What makes them any better than the old headphones that could attach to your phone with a cable? Those never ran out of batteries or fell out of your ears (in the case of Apple). This just all seems like a trend to me. I bet $5 that companies will go back to the old ways in the next few years.

Bill, *Metro New York reader*

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ISTOCK

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♈ **Aries** Go with the flow and don't stop until you reach your destination. It's up to you to protect your name, ideas and critical relationships from unfair accusations.

♉ **Taurus** Go after your dreams. Size up situations, formulate ideas and do what has to be done. You can influence the outcome of a case if you take responsibility for your actions.

♊ **Gemini** Choose the easiest route. Dealing with matters that will improve relationships with people you care about will put your mind at ease. Romance is encouraged.

♋ **Cancer** If you share your thoughts, the feedback you receive will help you fine-tune whatever it is you want to do. Network and reach out to people who can help you get ahead.

♌ **Leo** A challenge will wake you up and push you to make a notable change. Play to win, embrace what life has to offer and use your skills to come out ahead.

♍ **Virgo** Join a group if it will help bring about a necessary change. Structure, data, and living up to your promises will help you gain support. Walk away from bad behavior.

♎ **Libra** Make plans with people who share your beliefs. Sticking to familiar territory will help you avoid emotional interference that could upset your plans. Physical fitness and updating your appearance are encouraged.

♏ **Scorpio** A change at home will improve your life and bring you closer to a loved one. Working as a team player will encourage positive options and smart choices.

♐ **Sagittarius** Confusion will set in if you believe everything you hear. Verify information before you pass it along, or you'll be the one to look bad. Do your due diligence and avoid regret.

♑ **Capricorn** Invest in a plan that has potential. Before you make a commitment, ensure that you can live up to what's expected of you. Abide by the rules and avoid setbacks.

♒ **Aquarius** Make good on your promises, regardless of what others do or say. It's essential to maintain transparency and integrity if you want to protect your reputation and position.

♓ **Pisces** Meetings should be handled with care. Don't send signals that are confusing or that imply one thing when you mean another. Take better care of your health. EUGENIA LAST

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NEW YORK COMEDYFESTIVAL

Comedian Nate Bargatze on his long journey to The Town Hall

Bargatze will headline the venue this Saturday as a part of the New York Comedy Festival.

PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

It can be a tricky thing for a stand-up comedian to promote a new stand-up show fresh off the heels of releasing a successful special. On one hand, you want to discuss the material that brought you wide acclaim. But on the other hand, you need to walk the line of promoting the hour you are currently working on without spoiling the element of surprise involved with the material. This is a problem that is specific to the craft. Even M. Night Shyamalan could maybe give you some plot points without spoiling a twist. Comedians have to leave you in the dark. Nate Bargatze is experiencing this strange phenomenon right now.

"Building a new act, it's hard once your special comes out you want to have an hour of new material. At the very beginning of it, it's not going to be as good as it is towards the end when you're ready for the special. You've got to keep it a secret. Jokes are all on a surprise, not knowing where this is going to go. You don't talk about it much," says Bargatze when I speak with him over the phone ahead of his headlining performance at The Town Hall this Saturday as part of the NY Comedy Festival.

After years of constant touring and grinding it out, the Tennessee native experienced a huge jump in popularity after being included in Netflix's stand-up series, the aptly named "The Standups," along with this year's hour-long special "The Tennessee Kid." With the release of both of these specials on such an omnipresent platform, Bargatze felt a seismic shift in terms of the venues he was able to play on the road. But in his eyes, it just seems like a hard won victory after years of sticking in there to see if it will all work out.

"Those changed my life," says Bargatze of the specials. "I would say [more so] 'The Tennessee Kid' hour, but they were both big for me. There are things that add into it. I would say, you've got to be around and doing stuff. I've done 13 late night sets. All of the late night sets, TV shows, Sirius Radio, Pandora, having your album on Spotify. All of these things. Sirius Radio is really big, because people listen to you while they're driving. You just have to be around. Also touring on the road ... I've been touring on the road for five straight years and just going to city to city."

After beginning his stand-up career at venues like Carolines here in the city, coming back to headline such a big and distinguished venue in New York is something that Bargatze never thought he would achieve in his early days. As a young comic, he even remembers attending the festival 10 years ago with his friend, fellow comic Dan Soder, to see one of their heroes, Bill Burr, perform at the exact venue he will be playing this Saturday. Looking back on his younger self, it seems surreal to Bargatze. At that time, he and Soder were looking to perform at any place that would have them. Now, he will be performing at one of the most revered theaters in the country.

"In the moment, you are definitely sitting there thinking 'I want to play here.' But that was 10 years ago, I don't even know if my goals were that far ahead. They were more reasonable. Like 'I wanna headline Carolines and sell that out,'" remembers Bargatze.

"When you are coming up, I don't think you really know how. You just want to keep going forward and hopefully stuff will happen. Comedy is weird, it's not very direct in that you do this, this, and this and then you're huge. It could take someone 15 years or 30 years. You never know what the path is going to be," he adds. "When I was watching Burr, I remember wanting to have fans like that. When we were watching him at Town Hall, everybody knew him. I remember that being a goal. You want everyone to know who you are. You want to have done good enough that people are coming to watch you and are excited to see you. ... It's fun to perform when nobody knows you. But it's very, very fun to perform when everyone knows you."

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Brian Belovitch. ALL IMAGES GETTY IMAGES

"It's a love story about finding love within yourself"

Director Karen Bernstein and focus Brian Belovitch discuss the moving documentary "I'm Gonna Make You Love Me."

MOLLY GIVEN
Molly.Given@metro.us

"We just have to tell the story."

That's what director Karen Bernstein and editor-producer Nevie Owens decided to do after spending months trying to figure out how to tell the journey of Brian Belovitch.

"I'm Gonna Make You Love Me" follows the compelling story of Brian, who from 1974 until 1987 lived as Tish, a larger-than-life woman with a dream, and whose own life consisted of a gripping amount of highs and lows. Tish falls in love, gets married, gets divorced, moves to New York to become a nightlife celebutante, gets addicted to drugs and even resorts to prostitution. It's at the end of this harrowing period that Tish transitions back to Brian, and now Brian is in his sixties, sober, happily married, and excited to tell his story.

Karen and Brian met in the early '90s and on a car ride to Brian's driving test (at the time his license still read Tish), Karen first heard the journey of Tish and Brian. Since then, the seasoned documentary filmmaker had been waiting for the perfect vehicle to drive the story to the public's attention — that happened in 2014 with one email.

Tish's first marriage with her husband David did not end well, and ultimately Tish lost contact with his whole family after the break-up. However, years after transitioning back to Brian, David's sister Kim emailed Brian searching for Tish.

"The email left me in tears because it was so loving and so supportive and so opposite of my previous experience with the family," says Belovitch. "It was really moving for me. But that's kind of what started us down the path of the film, and that's what helped evolve the film to where it is today — which is this completely different story from where we started."

Finding a way to tell Brian's story was not easy for Karen, it took time to find just the right angle for such a complex narrative.

"There was nothing really organic about it — it was a real struggle," says Bernstein. "I felt that our entire relationship with the story was open-ended and I felt as though I had to land on a concept and a way of telling the story because it became very confusing. I talked to many colleagues of mine about how to tell this story and everyone had their own advice. I give a lot of credit to my editor Nevvie because she did a really amazing job of going back and forth in time and making it work because it's a really difficult thing to do. Believe me, we spent a lot of time agonizing over it, but we found a way to make it work. It is a story of his life, so it's him telling his story. We may have rearranged the walls around it so to speak, but we kept it pretty much as is."

Brian also recently released his first memoir (a second is possibly in the works) following his journey, "Trans Figured." To Brian, both the book and the documentary helped him make peace with everything he has had to suffer through even at a young age. The documentary showcases the strength of Brian, but also the wounds that were born from ignorance, and not understanding someone who's different. There is so much that happened even further beyond the drug use and prostitution that shaped a dark cloud over Brian's life, but he learned to dance in the rain.

Karen Bernstein

"I've made a lot of peace over the years with my story. [Working on the documentary] was cathartic, and it also was very difficult in the same way that writing a memoir was difficult. You have to go to some places that you would really rather not revisit — even with the physical places, we did a lot of walking around my old neighborhoods. With any kind of creative project, it can be challenging, but I was up for it," says Belovitch.

Overall, what Karen hopes audiences take away from the documentary is a better sense of understanding. Telling stories is what she does, and this one really doesn't need any embellishing — it's extremely compelling and eye-opening for a number of reasons.

"The way I look at it, I never intended this to be political. I don't want to make a giant statement. But I hope it does show the Trans community in a way that people have never seen before and can give an inside look into this world," says Bernstein. "It feels so rude to ask someone who is in the process of transitioning why they are doing it. So what this does, thanks to Brian who is so open about this story and this entire exchange, is humanizes the experience. I want people to come away from this film not thinking of the process being this political act but just being a human act. What are the motivations behind it? What does it mean to be gender fluid? How do we treat kids who are not like us? I think people need to take a very long look at that and get out of their own skin to look at how they're treating others."

For Brian, whose life is so closely being observed by millions of readers and now viewers, he hopes the film is able to provide a sense of finding a way to love yourself — whoever you may be.

"I hope it's helpful to people who are struggling. When I was younger I never felt valid, and that lead me to some questionable decisions. People could really benefit from the story," says Belovitch. "I hope that people will take away from the film that gender is non-binary and it's expansive and fluid. For some people, gender is a destination, but for me, it's been a journey — a long journey with many twists and turns. The thing that I would love people to take away from it is to just not give up. Keep going and keep trying to find your sense of self, comfort and peace within yourself. In spite of all of the incredible obstacles and things I've had to overcome, I've somehow managed to get to the other side of those difficult experiences and also come to a deep sense of understanding for myself. It's a love story about finding love within yourself. Some people just have to look a little harder than others."

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Plastic flamingos and Marisa Tomei: A night at 'The Rose Tattoo'

Tomei dazzles in Roundabout's newest production.

CARRIE ADAMS
letters@metro.us

Tennessee Williams's "The Rose Tattoo" is not one of his best known plays, but Sicilian powerhouse Serafina Delle Rose may be one of his greatest characters. Roundabout's production, directed by Trip Cullman and running at the American Airlines Theatre through Dec. 8, reflects this truth: not the greatest play I've ever seen, but Marisa Tomei gives one of the fiercest performances I've ever witnessed. And, because she appears in essentially every scene, the production is a triumph.

What I really want to talk about is the lawn flamingo, the tacky but harmless ornament from suburban lawns of yore, invented in 1957 by Don Featherstone. Lawn flamingos represent the ultimate duality: superfluous, pink and inherently feminine, but simultaneously made of tough plastic, built to survive the brutal elements of the outdoors. They, like Serafina Delle Rose, are stronger than you give them credit for. Pink plastic lawn flamingos litter the stage of "The Rose Tattoo," set in the year 1950 (seven years before the flamingos were invented). Before they were permanently discontinued in 2006, the plastic birds were traditionally sold in pairs: one with its head bent down, the other looking straight ahead. We see both birds posed onstage, and they're a metaphor for our heroine. It's reductive to pigeonhole (flamingohole? Sorry...) Serafina into just one of these positions, as they represent her duality: she who sees and she who refuses to.

In Act One, Serafina is the first flamingo, head buried in the sand. The play opens on a sultry, happy Serafina, waiting for her beloved husband to come home from delivering bananas (and the drugs that lie beneath them) in his ten-ton truck. He never comes home that night, and the show skips forward to three years after his death: Serafina's daughter Rosa (played by Ella Rubin) is now 15, graduating from high school and experiencing her first love with a sailor named Jack (the wide-eyed Burke Swanson, who holds his own

JOAN MARCUS

with Tomei in a very funny scene with a skeptical Serafina). Rubin, herself a senior in high school, beautifully navigates Rosa's adolescent frustration with and fierce protection of her mother. Meanwhile, three years deep in her mourning, Serafina has essentially let herself go (although a single mother who runs a business in 1950 after her drug-peddling husband gets himself killed seems quite capable to this reviewer). What's holding Serafina back is her continued worship of her late husband, particularly her obsession with their physical attraction and his body (she's particularly fixated on his chest tattoo of a rose). Metaphorically, her head is buried in the sand like the first flamingo, and she refuses to rejoin the world or acknowledge the truth of her husband's secrets, which begin to reveal themselves during Act One.

Act Two sees Serafina as the forward-looking flamingo #2, no longer able to hide from the truth and finally both free and forced to see the world around her. She sits outdoors for the first time, where we are introduced to Alvaro Mangiacavallo (played by the funny, charming Emun Elliott), a passing banana truck driver. Their courtship is simultaneously timid and tired, as they are both adults who know what they want and are too old for games but can't help but play them anyway. It contrasts beautifully to the desperate, naive romance between Rosa and Jack.

Watching Marisa Tomei navigate love, devastation, mourning, shock, anger, attraction and lust (to name a small sample) without skipping a beat is miraculous. Even though this review compares her to a lawn flamingo (it's a *metaphor,* okay?), the woman is anything but plastic. She is one of the most alive actors I have ever witnessed, pulsing with pent-up energy dying to be released. "The Rose Tattoo" is an opportunity to see one of Tennessee Williams's less-produced shows with one of today's finest living actors. I'd recommend it.

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5 BEST SMART HELMETS

DANIEL CASILLAS | METRO WORLD NEWS

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The most striking feature of this device is a very useful rear camera that allows riders to see what happens at the back. The image of what happens behind can be seen on the front screen, which also displays important data such as route directions, weather and time.

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This smart helmet has LED strip light, as well as a wide-angle HD camera, a Bluetooth communications unit, a VOIP intercom, a control unit mounted on the handlebar and connection to an app.

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Unlike other smart helmets, JARVISH uses voice services such as Amazon Alexa, Apple's Siri or OK Google to control certain functions. In addition, it has a rear camera, augmented reality and a head-up display that can be controlled and retracted easily via voice command.

Alexandar Georgiev (left) and Henrik Lundqvist (right). GETTY IMAGES

What's in store for Henrik Lundqvist?

With the veteran netminder taking a backseat to Alexandar Georgiev, we take a look at some of the routes the Rangers could take with Henrik Lundqvist.

JOE PANTORNO
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Even low expectations surrounding the New York Rangers contained a sliver of hope.

The rebuilding team is in the midst of a rebuild where youth is being stressed. It's a big reason why head coach David Quinn is behind the bench at Madison Square Garden. He's responsible for developing the plethora of youngsters within the Rangers' roster — a skill he showed while coaching at Boston University.

Quinn's youngsters have predictably gotten off to a slow start this year with inconsistencies reigning supreme.

There are nights they look like a playoff team; beating the likes of the Tampa Bay Lightning and Nashville Predators.

Then there are nights like Monday when they are smacked by an Ottawa Senators team that's expected to be one of the worst in the NHL this season.

Those are some of the growing pains that come with a roster filled to the brim with inexperience.

The Rangers currently have seven skaters who are age 21 or younger — including 18-year-old Kaapo Kakko — and an additional five aged 23-to-25.

Rome wasn't built in a day and neither will a contender, even with the additions of Artemi Panarin, Jacob Trouba and Adam Fox over the summer.

But the Rangers are faced with a conundrum in goal.

Henrik Lundqvist is a franchise legend who has been the backbone of the organization for the past 15 years.

On his day, he's still one of the better goalies in the game, but he's 37 years old playing behind a defense that constantly lets him out to dry.

The numbers reflect that — and his own struggles — through six starts as he's 2-3-0 with a .906 save percentage and 3.58 goals against average.

That's miles off his career averages of .918 and 2.42, respectively.

Splitting time with Lundqvist is 23-year-old Alexandar Georgiev, who has shown flashes of developing into the Rangers' future No. 1 goalie.

His numbers are far better than Lundqvist's in seven appearances with a .913 SV% and 2.87 GAA.

Not only has he given the Rangers a better chance to win on most nights — even though he was in goal on Monday night in a 6-2 loss to Ottawa, his third-straight start — Georgiev also fits the youthful mold of this rebuild.

So for the nth time in the last two years, the question has to be asked again: are the Rangers preparing to move on from Henrik Lundqvist?

He has a no-movement clause in his contract, which means the only way he's leaving New York is if he OKs a deal. He's never suggested such an idea, though.

The Rangers could deal Lundqvist to a contending team in need of goaltending help where his numbers could surge back to top-tier status behind a reliable defense.

That way the veteran netminder could get a chance at obtaining that all-elusive Stanley Cup title that's been missing from his trophy cabinet.

A more likely scenario is that Quinn is simply riding the hotter hand in Georgiev while Lundqvist could help the youngster develop into a bonafide starting goalie in the NHL as a reserve.

It remains to be seen if Lundqvist would be too proud to accept such a role and remain there throughout the remainder of his contract, which expires at the end of next season. But it's something to keep an eye on throughout the first half of this year.

RED WINGS vs. RANGERS
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Mookie Betts (left), Anthony Rendon (center) and Gerrit Cole (right) will be the three biggest names to watch on the market this offseason. GETTY IMAGES

What would an aggressive offseason look like for Van Wagenen, Mets?

If the Mets are going to truly go for it in 2020, what are some moves GM Brodie Van Wagenen could pursue?

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

During Carlos Beltran's introductory press conference as the 22nd manager in New York Mets history, general manager Brodie Van Wagenen provided a rather vague explanation of his offseason plans.

But it still left the door open for Mets fans to dream.

"At this point, we're going to explore all options with the roster," Van Wagenen said. "Once we find the right fit, we'll try to make that a reality."

The Mets are entering one of the most important offseasons in franchise history.

The core of the team is well in place after a 2018 season that provided 86 victories.

Jacob deGrom is on his way to winning a second straight Cy Young Award.

Pete Alonso looks to be the game's next big slugger after a monster 53-home run campaign that should result in him winning NL Rookie of the Year.

Jeff McNeil is an All-Star, Michael Conforto put up his first-ever 30-home run campaign and Amed Rosario looked to turn the corner in his MLB development after slashing .321/.352/.452 in his final 90 games of the season.

This team has the potential to be a postseason contender. But an aggressive offseason makes them a World Series contender.

There is an obvious and immediate question of how much the Wilpon family is willing to invest in such an idea. The Mets owners have a well-known track record shying away from making the big splash — whether that's on the trade market or, mostly, in free agency.

But if the Mets are really as all-in as Van Wagenen claimed throughout his first year as GM, then the organization needs to get its ducks in a row.

So what moves would make the Mets immediate contenders?

First of all, they have to be in on both Gerrit Cole and Anthony Rendon. Not neither or one of them. Both.

Cole — the ace of the Houston Astros — went 20-5 with a 2.50 ERA and 326 strikeouts in 2019. And while rumor has it that he is going to head back toward the west coast, a hefty payday and the promise of him completing a one-two punch that includes deGrom would provide an awfully compelling offer.

It would also allow the Mets to let Zack Wheeler walk in free agency while also continuing to listen to any possible trade proposals for Noah Syndergaard.

Beltran and Van Wagenen would still have Marcus Stroman and Steven Matz to work with.

The long-time Washington Nationals third baseman, Anthony Rendon is a finalist for the NL MVP Award after slashing .319/.412/.598 with a career-high 34 home runs along with a league-leading 126 RBIs and 44 doubles.

He would provide the Mets with a legitimate third baseman that provides Gold Glove-quality defense along with that marquee bat.

It would make the likes of J.D. Davis — another younger, promising bat — expendable and an attractive trade target for teams around the league.

A 26-year old who batted .307 with 22 home runs in 140 games would certainly sweeten the pot of any trade package, though he wouldn't be a marquee name.

Speaking of trades, the Mets should make it a point to harass new Red Sox executive Chaim Bloom about the possible availability of superstar right fielder Mookie Betts.

With J.D. Martinez opting into his $62.5 million deal on Monday, the Red Sox will have to do some financial gymnastics to stay near the luxury tax threshold. Betts, who will be a free agent following next season, could be on the block.

The Mets need a true center fielder rather than shifting natural corner outfielders like Conforto and Brandon Nimmo. Betts — a four-time All-Star, four-time Gold Glove winner, and 2018 AL MVP — could address that void and more by shifting over.

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Baker reveals just how bad Giants coaching is

Giants rookie cornerback still having problems adjusting to defensive schemes.

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

Deandre Baker (right) was burned on Monday night. ALL GETTY IMAGES

While the Jets are taking up most of the focus on bad football in the New York City area, the Giants are doing their part in throwing their hat into the ring of ineptitude.

The Giants have now lost five straight following an embarrassing (and boring) 37-18 result on Monday night against the Dallas Cowboys.

Daniel Jones continues to be a turnover machine with an interception and two fumbles while being sacked five times behind an offensive line that isn't doing much to protect the Giants' franchise quarterback.

But it's another rookie in cornerback Deandre Baker who is making headlines following Monday night.

The first-round pick out of Georgia has had a difficult introduction into life in the NFL and it continued against the Cowboys when he completely whiffed on his coverage that led to Amari Cooper's 45-yard fourth-quarter touchdown.

With the Giants playing in man-to-man defense, Baker looked as though he was playing zone, which allowed Dallas' top receiver to get loose for the big score that iced things at MetLife Stadium.

After the game, the 22-year-old made admitted that he still doesn't really know the Giants' defensive schemes. That's quite an indictment on defensive coordinator James Bettcher and the rest of the Giants' coaching staff.

"Just the plays and everything like that," Baker said on what he had to improve on most (h/t NJ.com). "The playbook. Just knowing the plays. Knowing what I need to do. Knowing my assignment."

It's one thing if this was Baker's first or second week in the NFL. But his rookie season is past the halfway point and if the Giants are not doing anything to improve their first-round pick's understanding of the defense, then they are the problem. Not the player.

The Giants have allowed the most passing plays of 40 yards or more this season with 11 in nine games.

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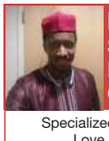

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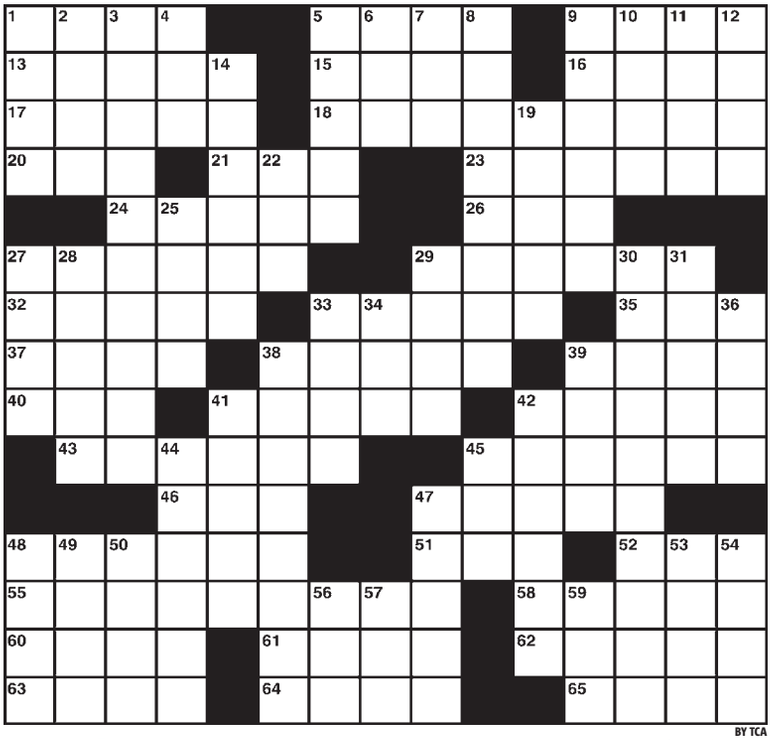
ACROSS

1 Slap
5 Man's nickname
9 Items sold by the dozen
13 Friendlier
15 Record
16 Pig's dinner
17 Male relative
18 Captivate; enchant
20 Word of mild surprise
21 Near the ground
23 Wandered
24 Hartman & Donahue
26 Almond or filbert
27 Reason
29 Peaceful
32 Up in arms
33 Uncouth; coarse
35 Sprite
37 Arrests
38 Talons
39 Celebrity
40 Under the weather
41 Daytime serials
42 Terra-__; brownish-orange clay
43 Nasal cavity divider
45 Ship's kitchen
46 __ amok; went wild
47 Actor Willem __
48 Moral principles
51 Likely
52 Part of the weekend: abbr.
55 Like a chessboard
58 Venerate
60 Actor Alan __ Jr.
61 __ the way; pioneer
62 Appointed
63 Greasy
64 Nimble
65 Certain votes

DOWN

1 __ as a bug in a rug
2 Dinner beverage
3 Good enough
4 __ Aviv
5 Crock-Pot meals, often
6 Light brown
7 30-day month: abbr.
8 Proximity
9 Large country home
10 Morose; sullen
11 VP Al __
12 Earned a traffic ticket
14 Have a flashback about
19 Does a bartender's job
22 "__ Miss"; So. university
25 Successful shows
27 Skirt style
28 Some grad exams
29 Cutting tools
30 Irritating
31 Fill with joy
33 Manhattan __ chowder
34 Snoop Dogg's music
36 Become dog-eared
38 Gives advice to
39 Han __; "Star Wars" character
41 Heap
42 Loose gown
44 Expensive
45 Opening
47 Family member
48 Resound
49 Asian language
50 Satan's realm
53 Vicinity
54 Kennedy & Cruz
56 Speaker Pelosi's title: abbr.
57 Body part often pierced
59 "An apple a __ keeps..."



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P	J	M	U	S	I	C	A	L	S
L	E	L	T	N	U	F	K	D	P
E	A	O	E	A	G	W	E	N	I
H	N	C	B	M	Q	S	A	A	D
E	K	K	I	D	M	T	S	L	E
H	I	K	L	R	I	A	Y	A	R
T	N	L	L	I	A	C	A	L	M
C	G	O	I	B	C	Y	Y	A	A
S	U	P	E	R	B	A	D	L	N
A	T	F	A	B	X	Y	T	P	L

BAFTA
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Easy A
Emma
Gwen
Jean King
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Mia
Musical
Spider-Man
Stacy
Stone
Superbad
The Help

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C	T	M
I	S	U

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	5		1	2	4		8	
4		3				7		
8				7				
	4		7	8	2		1	
		6		4		2		
	1		6	9	3		4	
				5				2
		2				3		5
	7		2	3	8		6	

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T	O	L	E		R	U	S	T	S		U	G	L	Y
	M	E	R	R	I	M	E	N	T		M	E	S	S
			M	O	L	E			L	O	B			
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E	A	V	E		B	E	A	D	S		F	O	R	T
N	N	E		M	A	S	K	S		D	R	I	V	E
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			O	L	D			S	O	N	G			
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E	D	A	M		N	E	A	R	S		L	E	T	S
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